

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace paragraph [0099] with the following amended paragraph:

[0099] The basal low calcium diet exerted a hyperinsulinemic effect, with a 2-fold increase in plasma insulin levels ($p < 0.001$, Figure 11). The mice maintained on this basal diet *ad lib* exhibited sustained levels of hyperinsulinemia, while energy restriction *per se* reduced plasma insulin by approximately 50% ($p < 0.001$, Figure 11). The high calcium diets did not further significantly affect insulin levels, although there was a non-significant trend towards further reductions (Figure 11).